

# BUSINESS PARTNER BRIEF

## FEBRUARY 2021



### Director's Message

We have so much great news to share with you this month, including a very exciting development from our very own Aeroplex/Aerolease Group. Please make sure to read about their new solar energy project, as well as to catch up on all the other airport news we have for you. Although challenging, I continue to watch the vaccine rollout with great hope for what this will mean for our future and our nation. I hope you and your loved ones are healthy and safe! -Cynthia Guidry

### Aeroplex/Aerolease Group Launches New Solar Energy Project

Last week I was delighted to celebrate the completion of the largest solar energy project on the Airport campus, marking a milestone in LGB's growing sustainability program. Aeroplex/Aerolease Group, an aviation property development, consulting and management firm that holds an LGB master lease, installed the new system on their building, which is also host to Signature Flight Support's fixed base operator (FBO).





The large footprint of the solar electric system, constructed by Current Energy, consists of nearly 1,000 solar panels mounted on 55,000 square feet of the Aeroplex rooftop at 3333 East Spring Street. The panels generate 380 kilowatts (kW) of solar power per year, which is a greenhouse gas emissions reduction equivalent to one million miles driven by an average passenger vehicle.

I want to thank Aeroplex CEO Curt Castagna for his leadership on this project. I had the pleasure of flipping the ceremonial switch for the new solar energy system at a virtual ribbon-cutting last week. You can view the [video from that event here](#) and read our [joint press release here](#).



## LGB Business Partner Spotlight: Long Beach Flying Club

This month we'd like to introduce Candy Robinson, owner of Long Beach Flying Club. She recently celebrated her 40-year anniversary as owner of the club, which she purchased in 1980 for \$1,800. Needless to say, she has a true love of flying and previously flew for Part 135 and Part 121 operators like Alpha Air, American Eagle and UPS. Her grandfather was an accomplished aviator who started flying in 1926 and retired as Chief Pilot from United Airlines in 1967.



Q: Can you tell us about Long Beach Flying Club?

A: We have trained thousands of pilots. Many have gone on to successful careers with commuter and major airlines. We are dedicated to giving the pilot who flies for personal, business, or purely for pleasure, the same quality instruction as to those who are career-oriented. Come check us out at 2631 East Spring Street!

Q: How has COVID-19 affected your business?

A: Our international student business has dropped off considerably but we're still very busy.

Fortunately, flight schools are considered essential services by the State of California, so we can stay open. We did, however, close for six weeks from March 17 through May 1, 2020. During that time, we were able to pay our employees using the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) and design the procedures so that we could reopen safely. Additionally, we needed to procure enough cleaning and paper supplies to service the building.

Q: What do you like best about being part of the LGB community?

A: Having a business on a city-owned airport like LGB has given me the opportunity to grow the business. We have a 40-year lease on the land and own the building, an opportunity I believe would not have been available on any other airport in the Los Angeles basin. There aren't as many service businesses at the airport as in the "olden days," but we have enough connections to get almost anything we need to fix whatever comes up.

Q: Anything else you'd like to share with your fellow LGB business partners?

A: Being part of the Parcel J development has been quite interesting, from the groundbreaking in 1998 through the present, with the tenants forming the Daugherty Sky Harbor Office Association to manage the common area for all the businesses on the southeastern corner of the airport.

## LGB Awarded Global Health Accreditation

After an extremely thorough vetting process, I'm delighted to share that LGB recently achieved accreditation from the leading trade organization for airports for its commitment to ensuring the health and safety of its passengers and employees since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Health and safety measures implemented by LGB include:

- Activation of drive-through COVID testing facilities on the Airport campus.
- Face coverings are required for all employees, passengers, and visitors at LGB.
- Floor markings and other measures are in place throughout the Airport to guide travelers to practice social distancing.
- Protective shields are installed in high-traffic areas where physical distancing cannot be maintained, such as ticket counters, gates and cash registers.
- Airport staff are cleaning and disinfecting high-touch surfaces and objects on an hourly basis. Airlines that serve LGB have also instituted more rigorous cleaning protocols before and after each flight.
- Hand sanitizer dispensers have been added throughout the most highly trafficked areas and are available approximately every 50 feet.
- In cooperation with its business partners, LGB is working towards a touchless experience through the Airport, including encouraging the use of mobile boarding passes and touchless payment at dining and retail.



This is a tremendous accomplishment and I'd like to give special kudos to our entire Building Services and Maintenance teams for their dedication to keeping everyone healthy and safe!

## New Southwest Service to Maui

Southwest Airlines [announced last week](#) that it will launch daily, nonstop service from LGB to Maui, beginning in March. The news comes after Southwest saw strong interest in their [recently announced](#) flights from LGB to Honolulu, which also start in March. This is the seventh new destination announced by Southwest Airlines since the airline requested and received [17 additional flight slots](#) in September 2020.

I am so grateful that our number of destinations and options continue to expand for our travelers. In December, Hawaiian Airlines announced new service to Maui and American Airlines announced new service to Dallas/Fort Worth. You can check out all the exciting developments at [www.longbeach.gov/lgb/airlines-destinations/](http://www.longbeach.gov/lgb/airlines-destinations/).

## COVID-19 Testing Site Opens at Long Beach Airport

In mid-January, we partnered with Hawaiian Airlines and the Covid Clinic to launch two drive-thru COVID-19 testing sites in the parking lot at the corner of North Lakewood Boulevard and Donald Douglas Drive. I'm very happy to offer this convenient and accessible option for our passengers.

Hawaiian Airlines' drive-thru lab offers \$90 polymerase chain reaction (PCR) tests with results provided within 36 hours. The State of Hawaii currently exempts visitors and returning residents from quarantine if they obtain a negative pre-travel COVID-19 test result by an approved testing partner no more than 72 hours before their scheduled departure time. To schedule an appointment, visit [hawaiianairlines.com/WorksiteLabsTest](http://hawaiianairlines.com/WorksiteLabsTest).



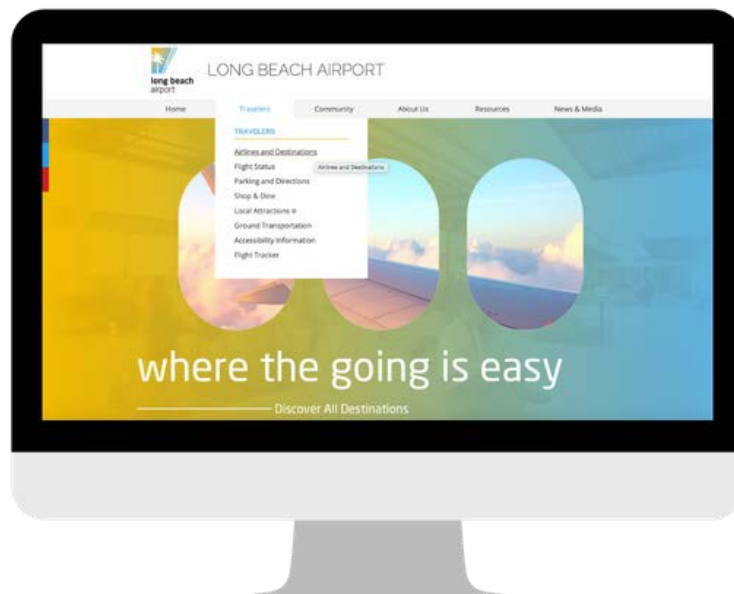
The airport's second drive-thru testing site is administered by Covid Clinic and is available to any ticketed LGB traveler from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Rapid PCR test results will be provided within two hours and are among a variety of antigen and antibody tests offered. Reservations, as well as test information and pricing, are available at [www.covidclinic.org/lgb](http://www.covidclinic.org/lgb).

I hope those with essential travel needs will take advantage of this new opportunity. We're also looking into adding a Hawaii-approved testing partner for passengers on Southwest Airlines.



## LGB Wins Industry Award for Website

I am excited to share that LGB has been named the winner of Airports Council International - North America's (ACI-NA) Marketing and Communications Awards in the website category! As you probably know, [lgb.org](http://lgb.org) relaunched earlier this year with a fresh, modern look that captures our still relatively new brand and includes a number of innovative features that rival any other airport website. This is a great honor for our airport, especially since we were competing against airports of all sizes in Canada and the U.S. Many of you provided feedback on our website that improved the final product, so thank you for that!



## TSA to Implement Face Mask Order

In case you missed it, TSA issued a press release on January 31 regarding President Biden's executive order requiring travelers to wear face masks when they are in airports and other forms of transportation. Starting on February 2, TSA will require individuals to wear a mask at TSA airport screening checkpoints and throughout the commercial and public transportation systems. This requirement will remain effective until May 11, 2021.

TSA's action also supports the CDC's Emergency Order about masks. As I'm sure you know, the airline industry has been very supportive of federal action on this pressing issue. You can read the full press release about this new development [here](#).

## Construction Updates

Construction on the Taxiway B project (Future Taxiway E) began in mid-January. As you may know, the existing Taxiway B is primarily used by our general aviation community and our two FBOs. From a construction perspective, the existing Taxiway B has reached the end of its useful service life and is being decommissioned as a taxiway and converted into apron. The new Taxiway B (to be renamed Taxiway E) will be reconstructed further east at the location of the former, and now decommissioned, Runway 16R-36L with new asphalt pavement. Construction includes approximately 350,000 square feet of pavement removal and 300,000 square feet of new asphalt pavement, as well as new LED airfield lighting and signage. A new connector to the taxiway (Taxilane E1) and new vehicle service road will also be constructed as part of the project. We expect the project will be completed in September or October of this year.



*Asphalt concrete pulverization taking place as part of the Taxiway B Project (facing south).*

Phase II of the Terminal Area Improvements Program continues moving forward with work on the Checked Baggage Inspection System (CBIS) facility and the new Ticketing Lobby. The team recently completed the exterior board framing, including electrical and plumbing, as well as waterproofing for CBIS. For the Ticketing Lobby, grading and foundation activities continue. The geopiers, which support the building's foundation, were installed and completed in January.

The Ticketing Lobby will have the greatest operational and passenger experience impact, as it is the primary passenger interface facility and will allow for new technology, such as common use, self-service kiosks.



*Workers install DenGlass sheeting on the CBIS facility*

## December Commercial Flight Activity

Airline passenger traffic at LGB decreased 85.4% in December 2020 compared with the same period in 2019; LGB served 46,816 passengers in December 2020. Total air cargo carried by aircraft, both inbound and outbound, decreased 21.8% in December 2020 compared to the same time the previous year; 1,813 tons passed through LGB in December 2020.

### Commercial Flight Activity Report December 2020

	December 2020	December 2019	% Change	YTD 2020	YTD 2019	% Change
<b>Passenger Traffic</b>						
Enplanements	23,603	159,174	-85.2%	520,297	1,791,451	-71.0%
Deplanements	23,213	162,512	-85.7%	523,476	1,792,752	-70.8%
<b>Total Passenger Traffic</b>	46,816	321,686	-85.4%	1,043,773	3,584,203	-70.9%
<b>Total Air Cargo (Tons)</b>	1,813	2,317	-21.8%	15,714	21,120	-25.6%

#### Definitions:

Passenger Traffic – Number of airline passengers both enplaned (departures) and deplaned (arrivals).

Air Cargo – Cargo carried by commercial aircraft, both inbound and outbound.

## Administrative Office Closures

Long Beach Airport administrative offices will be closed alternating Fridays until the furlough period ends September 30, 2021, to help balance the City's budget during this economic downturn. This month a designated furlough day will be the scheduled work day before the City holiday.

Airport operations, security and janitorial services will continue uninterrupted. LGB administrative offices will be closed on the following days:

- Friday, February 5
- Friday, February 12
- Friday, February 26

A complete [list of furlough closure dates](#) is available on the City's website.